

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 198584

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 198584

FOR MATLOCK FROM GARRISON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

1. RE YOUR 12473, PARA 4: THE DEPT UNDERSTANDS DEA HAS INTERVIEWED THE FAMILIES OF THE MOSCOW THREE. IT SEEMS TO US THEY WOULD HAVE THE NORMAL RIGHT TO DISPOSE OF PROPERTY EXCEPT PERHAPS FOR ITEMS WHICH WERE DESIGNATED BY THE PROSECUTION OR DEFENSE AS EVIDENCE IN THE CASE. IN PRACTICAL TERMS WE DO NOT SEE HOW THE SOVIET AUTHORITIES COULD INHIBIT THEIR DISPOSING OF PROPERTY OUTSIDE THE USSR, EXCEPT THROUGH REFUSING TO LET THEM SIGN ANY NECESSARY DOCUMENTS. THE QUESTION OF WHETHER THEY COULD FACE PROSECUTION IN THE UNITED STATES IS DIFFICULT TO ADDRESS IN THE ABSTRACT. THEY OBVIOUSLY COULD NOT BE CHARGED IN THE US FOR ILLEGAL IMPORTATION INTO THE USSR. HOWEVER, IT SEEMS THE CASE AND INVESTIGATION BY DEA COULD PRODUCE GROUNDS FOR A SEPARATE AMERICAN CASE, SUCH AS CONSPIRACY TO VIOLATE U.S. NARCOTICS LAWS, ETC. WE HAVE CHECKED THIS OUT INFORMALLY WITH THE EXPERTS BUT GETTING A CLEARED MESSAGE MAY TAKE SOME DOING. DO YOU NEED A REGULAR CABLE?

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CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 198584

2. RE PARA 7, YOUR 12562, WE CONVEYED POINT TO BROWN IN CONTEXT OF CHERCHENKO CALL WHICH GAVE OUR POINT SOME FORCE.

3. SOVIET EMBASSY TODAY ASKED FOR AIRPORT PRIVILEGES FOR DOBRYNIN THIS EVENING (AUGUST 10). HE IS RETURNING TO MOSCOW WITH WIFE AND GRANDDAUGHTER. MUST HAVE BEEN SUDDEN, SINCE WE HAD SCHEDULED MEETING FOR HIM ON 7TH FLOOR TOMORROW.

4. SEVENTH FLOOR ASKS THAT WE GET CONFIRMATION THAT AMBASSADOR OR YOU WOULD BE WILLING TO RECEIVE COURTESY CALL FROM EDWARD MCDERMOTT, FRIEND OF GOV. HOLTON, WHO WILL BE IN SOVIET UNION AUGUST 18-31. HOLTON WROTE LETTER BUT HAS NOT RECEIVED REPLY. MCDERMOTT WOULD TELEPHONE AMBASSADOR'S SECRETARY. REPLY THIS CHANNEL.

5. MRS. BURRUM WILL MAKE RESERVATION FOR JOE ON BRANIFF 152. THEY WILL PICK HIM UP AT AIRPORT ON THE 12TH. LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING JOE. FRANK WAS THERE LAST WEEK.

6. FOR THE AMBASSADOR:

A. JAYNE WISE SAID NO PROBLEM WITH CHRISSY'S ARRIVAL ON AUGUST 14. (SAM IS OUT OF TOWN ON VACATION.)

B. JOAN IS PUTTING YOU ON THE WAITING LIST FOR COLUMBIA PLAZA.

7. WE FOUND MOSCOW A-223 DATED JULY 31 ON AFRICA INSTITUTE CONVERSATION VERY USEFUL. WE AND OTHER AGENCIES HAVE BEEN ASKED FOR RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE ACTION ON FTAL. WE ARE PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN ANY SIGNS OF SOVIET WILLINGNESS OR UNWILLINGNESS TO RESTRAIN SOMALIS FROM MOVING INTO POST-INDEPENDENCE FTAL.

8. RE MOSCOW 12562, PARA 8, I AM POUCHING MEMCON WHICH PROVIDES RATHER LURID RUNDOWN ON WHAT ACTUALLY HAPPENED. THE INDIVIDUAL WAS QUITE INDISCREET AND LEFT HIMSELF OPEN TO AN APPROACH, WHICH HE APPARENTLY REPORTED AND WAS SHIP-CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 STATE 198584

PED HOME. I AM WORKING ON THE BUREAU REGARDING ADVANCE WARNING ABOUT SUCH CAPERS.

9. I TRUST YOU HAVE THE TEXT OF THE SOVIET EMBASSY'S STATEMENT OF TODAY ON UNDERGROUND EXPLOSIONS. APPEARS THAT WILL BE EXTENT OF THEIR REPLY TO US. ROBINSON

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